

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Croxton Kerrial Church of England Primary School	
Address	School Lane, Croxton Kerrial, NG32 1QR
How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?	
Overall grade	Good
The impact of collective worship	Good

School's vision
<p>Inspiring a Love for Learning.</p> <p>'Let all that you do be done with love.' 1 Corinthians 16:14</p> <p>With God's guidance, we demonstrate a passionate commitment to inspiring a love of learning. We celebrate the uniqueness of each individual and together with parents, the church and wider community, we seek to discover the potential within all our children, preparing them to be happy, aspirational, kind and responsible citizens within our diverse society.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Croxton Kerrial's biblical vision is deeply rooted and lived out by the whole school family. Christian love permeates through every aspect of school life. • There are exceptionally strong links with the local church despite the difficulties in recruiting foundation governors. • Well planned collective worship impacts the lives of many of the school community. Times of spiritual reflection and exploration of faith are deeply valued. • There is a developing shared understanding of spirituality and the school is aware of next steps to deepen spiritual development. • Religious education (RE) contributes well to pupils' understanding of Christianity and other world faiths although practical experiences are limited.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure the developing cluster governance model continues to uphold the unique Christian distinctiveness of Croxton Kerrial school. • To adapt curriculum plans to identify opportunities for further spiritual development. • To deepen pupils' knowledge and understanding of wider faith communities through first-hand experiences.

Inspection findings

'Let all that you do be done with love' is inherent in this small school community. A sense of deep Christian love binds this school family together. There is an all-encompassing acceptance of each unique individual, enabling everyone to feel secure and flourish. Christian values of kindness, peace, hope, forgiveness and respect are deeply embedded. They are intrinsic in upholding the school's biblical vision. The desire to reduce the workload of leaders and difficulty in governor recruitment has brought about a cluster governance model over two church schools. This is a developing arrangement and enhanced by both schools having similar vision statements, centred on Christian love. However, leaders at all levels have yet to establish systems which will safeguard the unique Christian character of each school.

Strong, like-minded partnerships are ensuring that Christian distinctiveness is fundamental in every aspect of school life. The multi-academy trust's (MAT) vision is rooted in the fact that all can flourish and succeed because God is with them. This awareness of God's profound love aligns closely to the school's own vision statement. The MAT provides valuable support which enables pupils to thrive. This is complemented by the drive to reduce staff workload. The highly effective executive head teacher leads four local church schools. The competent head of school has responsibility for two of these. As a result, these robust and well-developed partnerships are enabling links at all levels, allowing all pupils to be inspired and strive towards their full potential.

Pupils are flourishing because the broad and balanced curriculum is grounded in inspiring a love for learning. Strong relationships and intuitive teaching help them to feel secure and challenge themselves. Leaders have a clear understanding of spirituality and this shared awareness is beginning to be articulated by staff. Curriculum plans are currently being remodelled to identify opportunities to develop spirituality even further. Regular pupil book studies in RE contribute to their knowledge about Christianity and world faiths. Marked pieces of work are highlighted with tabs raising questions for pupils to answer to secure understanding. Pupils appreciate that RE is helping them to respect difference. However, opportunities to communicate with 'real people' about their faith and culture are limited.

Parents choose to send their children to this school because of its deep Christian character and sense of family. They passionately express how this genuine sense of unity and love impacts life at home, giving them resilience to cope. There is an intense sentiment of mutual respect and trust. Pupils highlight fundraising causes including raising funds to heat the church because they use it so much. Expressions of Christian love within this community are reciprocal. Selfless, practical actions by pupils include litter picking throughout the village. Pupils respond with empathy to plights of people from around the world demonstrating deep Christian love. More historic happenings, such as transatlantic trafficking and slavery, are thoughtfully articulated by older pupils.

Relationships are strong at all levels within this vibrant school community. Forgiveness is a key part of the 'behaviour wheel.' Pupils are encouraged to complete a reflection sheet causing them to consider their actions. Attendance is good as a result of frequent interactions with families. Every pupil's circumstance is known and they are treated as an individual. The effective and resourceful special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) co-ordinator is able to access valuable mental health support for pupils. This is innovative and creative as a result of a comprehensive overview of need. Staff highlight how the school's Christian vision is lived out by leaders. New members of staff quickly feel nurtured as part of the team and enthusiastically relate how everything is done in love. Small actions like the purchase of a coffee machine make the team feel valued and appreciated. They give credit to the MAT

for ensuring that their well-being needs are of high priority.

Active acceptance of each individual empowers them to live life if all its fullness at Croxton Kerrial. Everyone is treated with dignity and respect as people created within the image of God. Staff are well attuned to the needs of pupils in their class. Frequent, spontaneous conversations help to quickly address any needs and concerns. Classroom worry boxes also contribute to ensuring pupils are protected from incidents. As a result, bullying is rare. Difference and diversity are celebrated as everyone is valued and recognised as part of God's creation. The relationships education policy aligns closely to the school's vision. It endeavours to 'provide a caring environment where every child can thrive and is supported to achieve their unique, full potential as a child of God.'

Collective worship is central to the life of this school. It is well planned focusing on the vision, values and 'character muscles.' The collective worship co-ordinator is passionate about her role. Worship is inclusive allowing all to participate as much or as little as they want. Quiet times allow for invitational prayer and reflection. The vicar visits and leads inspirational worship on a weekly basis. A response has been created which uses the biblical reference to love ensuring that the vision is imprinted regularly on the minds of everyone. Lego is used to explain spirituality illustrating how everything is connected because of God's love. Pupils are inspired to demonstrate this love in everything they do. A range of religious songs are sung with a sense of rejoicing adding to the richness of worship. The Christingle service highlighted how attending church is an integral part of regular worship for this school community. Relationships with the local church congregation are a strength and therefore enhance and deepen its Christian character. Older pupils regularly lead worship with confidence. They are so experienced that there is little adult support and it is an integral part of the weekly pattern. Parents relate how attending regular Friday worship has an impact on their own lives.

Being part of this deeply caring school community is transforming lives in the knowledge that Christian love is constant and immovable. As a result, everyone is flourishing as they are equipped to face the challenges of an ever-changing world.

Information			
School	Croxton Kerrial Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	13 December 2022
URN	140317	VC/VA/Academy	Academy
Diocese/District	Leicester	Pupils on roll	54
MAT/Federation	RISE		
Executive Headteacher	Julie Hopkins		
Chair of Governors	Helen Sykes		
Inspector	Joy Hardy	No.	944